

## COVID-19 Glossary & Frequently Asked Questions

### **Case investigation**

Case investigation is part of the process of supporting patients with suspected or confirmed infection. Public health staff work with a patient to help them recall everyone with whom they have had close contact during the timeframe while they may have been infectious.

### **Close contacts**

All persons considered to have contact with the infected person is a contact. A close contact is anyone who has been within 6 feet of the infected person for at least 15 minutes, cumulatively throughout a day.

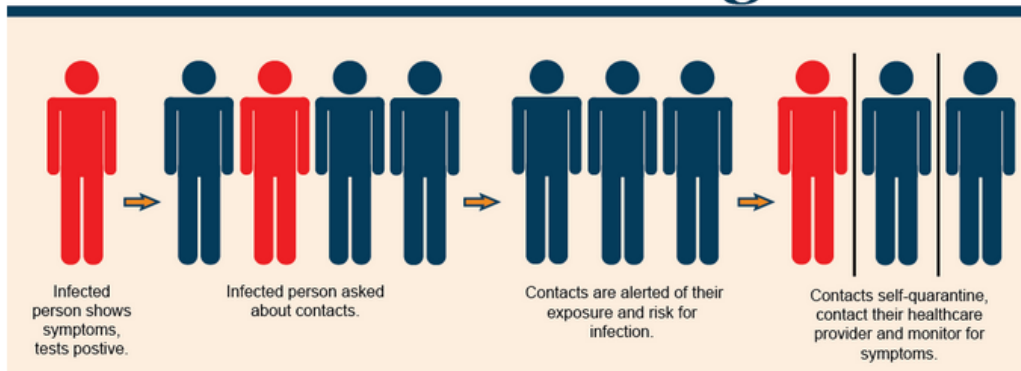
### **Contact listing**

All persons considered to have contact with the infected person should be listed as contacts. Efforts should be made to identify every listed contact and to inform them of their contact status, what it means, the actions that will follow, and the importance of receiving early care if they develop symptoms. Contacts should also be provided with information about prevention of the disease. In some cases, quarantine or isolation is required for high risk contacts, either at home, or in the hospital.

### **Contact tracing**

Contact tracing is the process of quickly identifying, assessing, and managing people who have been exposed to a disease to prevent additional transmission.

## How Contact Tracing Works



### **Isolation**

Separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

### **Quarantine**

Separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

For more info:

[www.washozwi.gov](http://www.washozwi.gov)

[Wisconsin Department of Health Services](http://Wisconsin Department of Health Services)

[www.cdc.gov/covid19](http://www.cdc.gov/covid19)

## COVID-19 Quarantine - 14 Days

### What does quarantine mean?

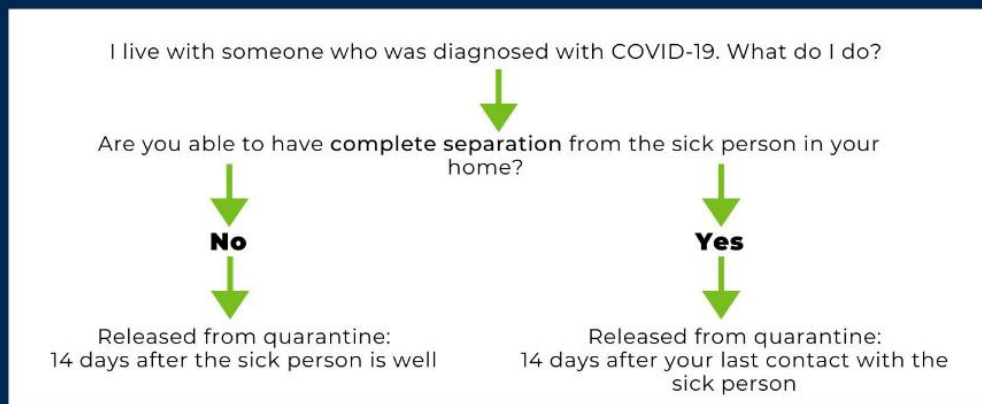
Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Who should quarantine?

- Individuals who are exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

### Quarantine Period

Individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 should quarantine for a minimum of **14 days** from date of last contact with positive case.



*Complete separation means no contact, no time together in the same room, no sharing of any spaces, such as using the same bathroom.*

Questions? Email us at:  
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## COVID-19 Isolation - 10 Days + 24 Hours

### What does isolation mean?

Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

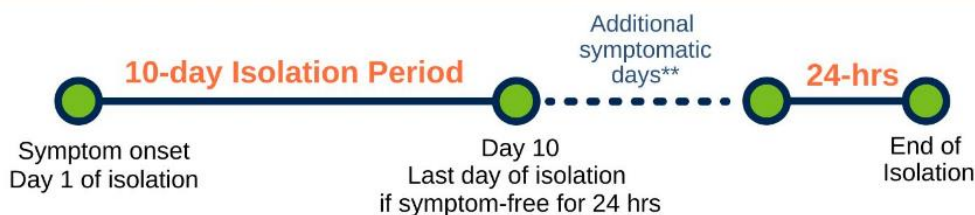
Who should isolate?

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19.

### Isolation Period

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for a minimum of 10 days from symptom onset AND 24 hours without symptoms. Individuals in isolation should practice complete separation\* if able.

*Asymptomatic positive patients should isolate for a minimum of 10 days from date of test.*



*\*Complete separation means no contact, no time together in the same room, no sharing of any spaces, such as using the same bathroom.*

*\*\*Some patients may experience symptoms for longer than 10 days*

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Why is my business listed as an outbreak?

An outbreak in a business or other community setting is defined as 2 or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 positives within a 14-day period. The health department will list the names of businesses that have 2 or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive employees on the data dashboard found [here](#). Outbreaks will be listed for no less than 14 days. If no further positive cases are reported within that 14-day period, the outbreak will be marked as “resolved.”

### 2. When will the health department consider closing my business?

The health department works with businesses across Washington and Ozaukee Counties to ensure appropriate safety measures are in place for employees, customers, clients, and patients. If the health department finds that the business is unable to put the appropriate safety measures in place to keep employees and patrons safe, the business may be closed for up to 14 days. If a business is unable to adequately maintain staffing or put mitigation strategies in place, the business should consider voluntarily closing temporarily before health department intervention.

### 3. What is considered an exposure?

An exposure is defined as any instance in which the individual comes in close contact (within 6 feet) of a known positive case for 15 minutes cumulatively throughout a day, or there is known droplet spread, i.e., sneezing, coughing, or spitting, sharing water bottle, kissing, etc.

### 4. Do COVID-19 positive employees need to be retested before returning to work?

No, this is not a requirement. It is up to the business to identify a timeline for when employees may return to work after an employee tests positive or has had an exposure. The health department recommends employees who test positive complete at least 10 days of isolation and be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to work. The health department recommends employees who are “close contacts” complete a 14-day quarantine. The employee should monitor their symptoms and reach out to their medical provider if they develop symptoms. Businesses should work with their employees to identify the time in which the employee will be in isolation or quarantine.

### 5. Will the health department provide work releases?

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[Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

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No, the health department will not provide work releases for employees. Businesses should work with their employees to identify when an employee may return to work based on the employee's symptom onset date and isolation/quarantine period. The health department recommends that employees not return to work if they are symptomatic past the recommended isolation/quarantine period.

**6. Where can my employees get tested?**

Employees should call their medical provider for testing. The health department also recommends employees use [2-1-1](#) for a listing of testing sites in the region.

**7. What are the cleaning/disinfection guidelines after a positive case?**

We recommend cleaning and disinfecting per CDC guidelines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

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